

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/936,158

Examiner

Prabodh M. Dharia

Applicant(s)

MATSUBARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09-11-2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10-19 and renumbered as 1-10.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 07-27-06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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1. **Status:** Please all the replies and correspondence should be addressed to Examiner's new art unit 2629. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted on 09-11-2006 under request for reconsideration, which have been placed of record in the file. Claims 10-19 are pending in this action. Claims 1-9 and 20-61 are cancelled.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 07-27-2006 was filed after the, mailing date of the final rejection on 06-08-2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and is being considered by the examiner.

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant has requested reconsideration with traversing the prior art rejection of independent claims 10 and 19. Claims 10-19 are pending with claims 1-9 and 20-61 are cancelled. Applicant's arguments, see Remark, filed 09-11-06, with respect to Claims 10 and 19 regarding "communication means for bi-directionally communicating with each of the plurality of data process devices to receive associated synchronous frequency information for each of the plurality of video signals; video process means for combining the inputted plurality of video signals into a combined video signal for display on one screen according to associated picture size information for each of the plurality of video signals, the picture size information associated with a given one of the plurality of video signals being based on the received synchronous frequency information associated with that video signal; display means for displaying the combined video signal that is outputted from said video signal process means;" have been fully

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considered, searched and are persuasive as they do overcome prior art rejection; and also telephone interview with applicant's representative, applicant has agreed to do examiner amendments, which puts application number 09936158 in condition for allowance.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a personal telephone interview with applicant's representative Lawrence E. Russ September 28, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Drawings

Page 1 of 38, after Figure 1, add "Related Art".

Page 2 of 38, after Figure 2, add "Related Art".

Page 3 of 38, after Figure 3, add "Related Art".

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 10-19 are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's arguments filed on 09-11-2006 are convincing. As argued by applicant in remarks under claim rejection page 7, paragraph 2, the prior art of Daniels (6,373,500 B1) in view of Kanno (5,602,567) fails to recite or disclose the uniquely distinct features represented by underlined bold claim below;

A picture display device for displaying a video signal supplied from a data process device, comprising: input means for inputting a plurality of video signals that are outputted by a plurality of data process devices; communication means for **bi-directionally communicating with each of the plurality of data process devices to receive associated synchronous frequency information for each of the plurality of video signals; video process means for combining the inputted plurality of video signals into a combined video signal for display on one screen according to associated picture size information for each of the plurality of video signals, the picture size information associated with a given one of the plurality of video signals being based on the received synchronous frequency information associated with that video signal; display means for displaying the combined video signal that is outputted from said video signal process means;** input device connection means for connecting to an input device and for receiving, from the input device, a first control signal based on a user input operation; transmission means for generating a second control signal for controlling the plurality of data process devices, the second control signal being based on the

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first control signal outputted from said input device connection means, and for causing said communication means to transmit the first control signal and the second control signal to the plurality of data process devices; and communication control means for controlling said communication means to communicate with each of the plurality of data process devices.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh M Dharia whose telephone number is 571-272-7668.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM to 5PM.

8. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:


Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

PD

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September 28, 2006



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600